

the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure states the minimum requirements for complaints. Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(a). Rule 8(a) requires that a complaint contain a short and plain statement of the grounds upon which federal jurisdiction rests, a short and plain statement showing that the plaintiff is entitled to relief, and a demand for judgment for the relief sought. The minimum requirements Rule 8 imposes are designed to provide a court with sufficient information to determine whether it has jurisdiction over the claims, and to provide defendants with sufficient notice of the claims being asserted in order to allow defendants to prepare a responsive answer and an adequate defense, and to determine whether the doctrine of res judicata applies. *See Brown v. Califano*, 75 F.R.D. 497, 498 (D.D.C.1977).

Plaintiff's Complaint falls far short of Rule 8(a)'s requirements. First, plaintiff has failed to state the grounds upon which federal jurisdiction rests. Construing plaintiff's Complaint liberally, it appears she is attempting to sue China under 18 U.S.C. § 2333(a), a provision of the Antiterrorism Act which creates a private cause of action for victims of international terrorism. This Court, however, plainly cannot entertain such suits against foreign states like the Government of the People's Republic of China. 18 U.S.C. § 2337(2); *see also Lawton v. Republic of Iraq*, 581 F. Supp. 2d 43, 46 (D.D.C. 2008) (finding that Section 2337 barred an Antiterrorism Act suit brought against the Republic of Iraq). To the extent plaintiff has attempted to state other causes of action, her complaint is so vague and confusing that it utterly fails to "give the defendant fair notice of what the plaintiff's claim is and the grounds upon which it rests." *Conley v. Gibson*,

355 U.S. 41, 47-48 (1957).

For these reasons, the complaint will be dismissed without prejudice for failure to comply with Rule 8(a). An Order consistent with this Memorandum Opinion is issued separately.

1


RICHARD J. LEON
United States District Judge